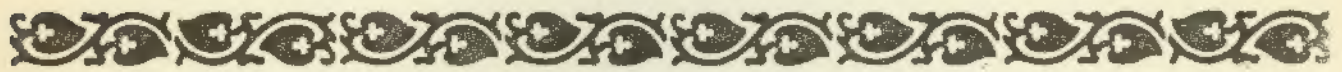


Turtle Back Zoo's Third Annual



Valentine's Day Poetry Contest

*Sponsored by
Urban Voices*



Peter Shapiro, County Executive



Urban Voices

Urban Voices is a group of poets and artists bound together spiritually for the purpose of sharing their thoughts, ideas and experiences.

The goal of Urban Voices is to reach out to individuals in the elementary and secondary schools, the colleges, the prisons and the Senior and community centers. Our goal will be achieved by:

Conducting poetry and art workshops and seminars.

Presenting "Up-and-Coming" poets and artists.

Publishing an anthology.

Developing a quarterly journal of poetry.

Special Education

Saint Patrick's -- Newark

A Bear

A bear has four legs,
And we have two.
A bear has two eyes,
And so do you.
A bear has fur
And we have skin..
A bear has paws,
And we have hands.

Ahmad Rogers

All the Bears

I like all bears,
Teddy Bears, Polar Bears, Grizzly
Bears and Care Bears.
They are very nice and sweet.
I like the way they eat.
Bears are everywhere,
In the woods, in the snow, in
China, who knows!
They're all covered with fur.
They look like a ball of fur.
There are bears of different
colors -
Brown white and black.
They're beautiful in any color.
Bears are nice animals,
They're my favorite mammals.

Paulo De Oliveira

Cleveland Street School -- Orange

Polar Bears

Huge, White, Awesome
Splashing, Growling
They're fun to watch
Mammal

Franklin Williams

I saw a bear he was on his feet
I was so scared I could hear my
heart beat.
Lucky for ME he was in his cage
Just growling and yelling in a
rage.
When I calmed down I realized
As I looked at those black eyes
That this poor bear was just as
scared of me
A fact I found hard to believe.

Bryan Gallman

Lincoln Avenue School -- Orange

The Grizzly and the Polar Bear

The Grizzly and the Polar Bear, oh what
good friends.
They go everywhere just like true friends.
The Polar Bear said to the Grizzly Bear,
"Are you going to bear school today?"
"No," said the Grizzly Bear, because today is
grandbear's birthday and plus today is
Bear Day."

Patrick Delaney

A Living Bear

The big bear eats a lot.
He shares a lot.
He won't hurt you if you don't
hurt him.
He would like to play with you
and you know when.
Don't get him sad or he'll get mad.

Tasha Elmore

The Teddy Bear
one and only

I have a bear and
I named him Rootie.
My mother brought
me another, and I
named him Tootie.
You put it together
and you get
Rootie Tootie.

Rudolph Winborne

Second Grade

Lincoln School -- Newark

My bear and I
Are both real shy
We like to wear clothes
That have lots of bows
We eat bread and honey
And save all our money
We play every day
And have fun in every way.

Keneen Anderson

Bears can slide on ice
Bears are very nice
Bears are good
They play in the wood
And my bear plays with
me.

Abdurrahim Hodge

Deerfield School -- Short Hills
Valentine

Valentine Bear, Valentine Bear
Won't you be my Valentine
Bear?
Valentines should be nice,
Valentines should be cute, and
you are both of them.

Kevin Scher

Florence Avenue School
Irvington

Bears

I love all kinds of bears
Big, small, all colors too
Alive or stuffed
My favorite is the panda
Black and white
These bears are out of
sight.
I would visit China
Trying to find the sign.
Pandas here, there and
hope to see them, every -
where.
Pandas are the most
beautiful bears in the
world!

Tomasz Palamar

Second Grade

Grandview School -- North Caldwell

My Teddy Bear

When I go to bed at night,
I hug my Teddy Bear so tight.
I really, really care
About my little Teddy Bear.
My bear is nice to hug and squeeze,
His favorite thing to eat is peas.
He has a nice, tiny black nose
He wears funny teddy bear clothes.
He has a chubby little face,
I like to take him every place.
And if my bear should fall apart,
It would really break my heart.

Anthony Kazoun

Third Grade

Warren Street School -- Newark

The Bear Who Loved Valentines

The bear lived in a forest,
The bear loved Valentines
Every Valentine the bear had
Made him very happy.
He loved Valentines.
On Valentine's Day he played baseball
With all of the other bears.
Also, he liked to sing a lot
The bear loved the forest
If the bear went away
He was very unhappy.
He loves Spring
But he hates Winter.
He loves Teddy Bears
He loves people
He just loves love.

Hason Foster

Third Grade

Warren Street School -- Newark

My Teddy Bear

I have a bear
It's brown
I love it
It's nice
It's a big one
It's my friend
It's eyes are black and white
It's brown all over
I love it very much
If you wind it up
It will sing for you
My father bought it
I read a story to my Teddy
The story had bears in it
We had a party for my Teddy
I played with my bear
I rocked it to sleep
Then my mother took us to the zoo
We saw the other animals
Some of them were Teddy's cousins
We said "Hello"
But then we had to say good-bye
At last we came back home.

Amina Parker

Forest Avenue School -- Verona

The Baby Bear

Baby Bear is cute
I've had him since I was one
He needs a new suit
I wish I could make him one
His ears and nose are gone too
His fur is ripped apart
He's not new
But he has a little heart.

Matthew Burke

My Teddy Bear

My Teddy Bear's name is
Duddley
He is cute and cuddley

When I first saw him
I gave a grin
I felt sorry
And took him in.

Now he's mine
He no longer belongs to
the store
And on January 25th he'll
be turning four.

Kenneth Galbreath

Brookdale School -- Bloomfield

My Little Teddy Bear

My Teddy Bear is so small and
cute
Her name is Brownie
I take her to bed, but some-
times I don't
I have millions of other little
Teddy Bears
But she is my best
She is my smallest
But I like her a lot

Genie Go

Third Grade

Hartshorn School -- Short Hills

My Teddy Bear

I've always known my Teddy Bear

He's almost always everywhere
He always seems to calm me down
He makes me smile when I frown

My Teddy Bear makes me sleep
My Teddy Bear I will always keep
He helps me not to be frightened
Always when the light isn't lightened

For him I really care
because he is my Teddy Bear

Noel Webb

He's Mine.

One cold wintery night
When I was snuggled up tight
And next to my bed was my Teddy Bear, Fred
He had lost one eye, but I did not cry
Because he's mine!

His toes are all wrinkled
His nose is all crinkled
But I did not care
because he's a bear
So don't you dare
to touch that bear
Because he's mine!

His eyes are real blue
(Oh, he's very cute too)
He looks at me with a smile
every once in awhile
His back is all red from lying in bed
But still he is MINE!

Hallie Sporn

Fourth Grade

South Mountain School -- South Orange

Teddy Bear

A present from my baby sister
Warm as a fur coat
Softer than a fluffy kitten
Unlike a real bear with rough
skin and a temper
He never gets angry
A very quiet thing
Always happy and smiling
He never criticizes when I have
a problem
He makes me feel warm and good
Happy as a person with every--
thing they wanted
I can see him
Sitting with arms open
Waiting for me to get into
bed and hug him

Joshua Eisenstein

George Washington Carver
Newark

My Little Stuffed Bear

My Little Stuffed Bear
She's so soft she
cuddles beside me when
I go to sleep.
I keep her warm and fuzzy
And she always makes me
happy.
That's why I love my
Little Stuffed Bear.

Kameka Felliecia

Panda Bear

Panda Bears are soft
and fuzzy
Their colors are black
and white.
They are fuzzy that's
one thing for sure and
I know that Polar Bears
climb up the trees.
Polar Bear "oh" Polar
Bears come on over and
have some fun because
you're going to have
a black and white party.
Yes, a black and white
party.

Kameka Felliecia

Fourth Grade

Geoege Washington Carver -- Newark

My Sister's Teddy Bear

My sister has a Teddy Bear
And she gives him a lot of care
She sleeps with him at night
And holds him extra tight
So he won't slip away

On the next day she couldn't
find Teddy
Then she lost her head
She cried and cried
Then there Teddy was
under her bed

Tonia Ziegler

Brookdale School -- Bloomfield

Teddy Bear

I have a Teddy Bear
Although he's lost his gloss
He's still my Teddy Bear
Although his neck is loose
He's still my Teddy Bear
Although his arms are floppy
He's still my Teddy Bear
I love my Teddy Bear

Peter Berk

School # 7 -- Belleville

Teddy Roosevelt

Teddy Roosevelt rode on a horse
He was very strong, of course
The Teddy Bear was named for him
Now I see one on a limb

David Hagedorn

Louise A Spencer --Newark

My Teddy Bear

My Teddy Bear is cuddley and
soft to her toes
I hug her day and night
that's how I know
Her name is Lisa: she has brown
eyes
They glitter as we stare at the
star covered skies
With her golden brown body
She's such a cute thing
When I wind her up, she moves
and she sings
I've had my Teddy since the
day I was born
If I were to lose her, I
surely would mourn.

Sherelle Ponder

Fourth Grade

Jefferson School -- South Orange

TEDDY

Ted Teddy is his name
He lives in Ted Ville city
He goes to Grizzly School
He lives on Polar Bear Pl.

Aaron Steck

School # 10 -- Belleville

Ralph

Ralph is as funny as a good joke.
He feels like a soft, fur coat.
Ralph is a very funny bear.
He has super -- fluffy hair.
Follows me here,
And follows me there.
Follows me almost everywhere.
He's my bear.

Jennifer Schmid

Stuffed Bears

Stuffed Bears can be small
or big
Skinny or fat
Girl or boy
Cute or cuddley
Or just your regular kind
of stuffed Bear
But I think my stuffed Bear
is everything a bear can
be!

Nyeema Johnson

School #4 - Belleville

Teddy the Bear

There once was a great president
named Roosevelt.
Who loved bears and made history
by the way he felt.
We knew him by Theodore or Teddy
the bear,
What better name for a president
that cared.
After this great president, I
only think it's fair
That he should be responsible
for the name "Teddy Bear."

CARMEN PIZZANO

Fifth Grade

Brookdale School -- Bloomfield

My Old Teddy Bear

I have a real old teddy bear
He must be fifty-three.
You know he hasn't grown an inch,
He comes up to my knee.

Louise A. Spencer -- Newark

My bear isn't stupendous,
But he's good enough for me.
Sitting with my purple snake,
It's quite a sight to see.

The Polar Bear

My teddy bear has soft, brown
fur,
And two round beady eyes.
His nose and mouth are very small,
Because of his short, short size.

A large white bear
from the Northern Hemisphere
As it haunts on icy floes,
hunted by Eskimos
Distinguished from other bears
It's name is the Polar Bear

You know my bear is a nice guy,
And he's truly a great friend.
But now I really have to say,
My oem has come to an end.

Karen Taylor

Anthony Nole

Polar Bears

Polar Bears have a lot of power
They can swim three to six miles
an hour

Sacred Heart School -- Newark

The Little Brown Bear

The little brown bear
just sits on a chair,
He just sits all alone
Until the children come home,
But for when the children go
out to play
he's back on the chair for
the rest of the day.
It goes on like this year
after year
All the day he just sits here

Kathleen Carson

Polar Bears live in the ice
and cold
That's what I am told

Polar Bears can be fierce and
they can be nice
Their soles facilitate walking
on ice

Polar Bears can move very
fast in spite of their size
I think if they had a race
A Polar Bear would win the prize

Polar Bears don't eat pills
But they do eat fish, walruses
and seals.

Terrence Oliver

Sixth Grade

Central School -- Orange

Chicago Cubs

Chicago Cubs are on the run
They play the game that's lots of fun
They play a game called baseball
Some players are thin some are tall
They wear uniforms white, red, blue
The fans wear the same colors too
The Chicago Cubs are rough and tough
They run around the bases like Smokey puffs

Lamont Poaches

School # 7 -- Belleville

My Teddy Bear

Oh Teddy Bear
Oh Teddy Bear
How I would still love
to take you everywhere
I said to my beloved bear

When I was two
you helped me through
you comforted me
you protected me
And I love you too

Now I don't need you
you sit on a shelf
All by yourself
Once in awhile I look at you
And remember you getting me through

Eddie Stanford

Gummy Bears

Gummy Bears I eat all day
Unlikely is it I give them
away

Many colors in which they
come
Many flavors do I taste on
my tongue

Yesterday I bought a ton
By today I was left with
none

Eating them was so much fun
After I couldn't believe
what I'd done

Barely is it I eat them so
fast
So let's get more Gummy Bears
and hope they last

Krissy Villano

Sixth Grade

Saint Mary's -- Newark

My Teddy Bear

I have a friend that is furry and brown
A friend who is always with me when I'm
feeling down.

He's stuffed with cotton and only costs
\$5.98, but as a friend and companion he's
oh so very great.

I never have to feed him or worry
when I leave him alone
for he never needs water
not even a doggy's bone.

Sometimes I take him with me
when my family and I go for a drive
It's special moments like these
When my Teddy Bear comes alive.

We will always be together
No matter when no matter where
Because forever and forever
I'll always love my Teddy Bear

Jenea Martin

Radcliff School -- Nutley

My Bear

There was an old bear in my bed
He had a big rip in his head
He was very old
And smelled I was told
But, I don't want a new one
instead

Steven Lambaise

Louise A. Spencer -- Newark

A polar bear is snowy white
He won't have to worry about
getting hit at night

When the polar bears get their
fish
They never eat them on a dish

The polar bear may be very
white
If you play with it, it will
put up a good fight - grrr

The polar bear has a thick
coat
It knows how to swim so it
won't need a boat

Polar bears have small feet
And they have sharp teeth
If you don't believe me I
should know
A polar bear almost bit my toe

Ashanti Wilkerson

Sixth Grade

Montclair Kimberley Academy -- Montclair

My Teddy Bear

His fur is going
Thanks to me
His shirt is ripped and faded
His nose is gone
Along with his ears
And he is not educated
He has two big buttons as his eyes
He never walked
He never cries
His body is worn, faded too
Teddy bear -- I love you

Bryan Koehler

Two Bears

Two bears stalk their prey
in the eerie quiet of the forest
like fat ballet dancers they
glide along
swaying to the right and to the left
over fallen branches
one pounces, then the other
and soon the forest is silent again

Tom Johnson

Seventh Grade

Warren Street School -- Newark

My Bear Theodore Roosevelt

My bear wears a big black belt
That's why his name is Theodore Roosevelt
Theodore just sits on my bed
I wonder sometimes if he's asleep or dead
Theodore is a bear that really really cares
He has feelings that he does not wish to share
I must take him to the vet
I have to check on my wonderful pet
What if it's a cold or the flu
If it is what will I do?
Each day when he returns from school
He looks at me like I'm a fool
Oh, how I hate to take him on the bus
Because people would stop and stare at us
But if I have to then I must
I must take him on the bus

Dashanta Faucette

My Little Bear

I have a little bear that loves to sing
She can dance and do about anything
When I take her for a walk
People are amazed because she can talk
I said, "My bear is loving and also cares."
She would not hurt you.

Her name is Clare
Which is very rare
She has fluffy, long, brown hair
Which you can't resist or even bare
There's one more thing about my bear
She's awfully nice
And loves blueberry pie

Tamila Harris

I'm Joey the Bear

Hi, I'm Joey the Bear
and if you like to stare
you'll like to stare at
Joey the Beautiful
Bear.
He cares about me
and I care about him.

Juvan Rivas

Seventh Grade

Warren Street School -- Newark

Teddy Bear It's big and brown and cutely
and everyone will love to touch
your shaggy hair and run their
fingers through its fur.
And feel secure and comforting
to have you as a friend.
Teddy bear, teddy bear I love you.
Teddy Bear teddy bear you're so cute.

Wilberto Perez

Mt. Vernon School -- Newark

The Number 1 Bear

The Number 1 bear is a friend of mine
I carry him with me most of the time
He's furry, cuddly and puts me to sleep
So there is no need to count all those sheep
My bear's name is Muffin and he's rather strange
Because it seems like his tie is always
rearranged
He's white and fluffy with dreamy eyes
He has three toes on each foot to my surprise
He's more than a friend to me
he fills my heart with happiness
And also glee
I always will love Muffin,
until he is no more
I will never find another in the store
sure there is one than more
but not like this, he has a spot in
my heart and if gone will be missed.

Misty Ponder

Seventh Grade

South End School -- Cedar Grove

The Black Bear

So black is he, as black as night
As he carries along his towering height
He holds his head up high
As he walks along under the very dark sky
You hear the branches crack beneath his powerful stride
And if you see him you'll get shivers up your spine
He'll find a pool and take a swim
And then come out into the wind
He shakes his powerful head down to his tail
And goes off in search of a snugly bed
But before he sleeps, he wants to eat
He finds a bush full of red berries
And starts to eat but not in a hurry
When he's finished eating his berry delight,
He goes back into the night

Jennifer Naef

Eighth Grade

South End School -- Cedar Grove

My Teddy Bear

My Teddy Bear is very old, very
wild and very bold
He sits on my bed guarding my
room. Keeping everything in order
and in tune,
He's had a few problems over
the years. Nothing serious
enough to shed any tears.
His nose fell off one winter's
night, and me as a child
hysterical with fright.
But thanks to some glue and a
caring hand, he recovered
quickly. We'll be together
'til the end.
Cause Teddy is my very best
friend.

Judi MaBilio

My Teddy

He's missing an ear
Lost it in his last fight,
Rover, my dog,
Chewed it off in one bite.

His left ear is missing,
And flat, is his face,
Since the time that we
last used
My bear as first base.

He's been tossed around,
spilled on,
Stepped on and squeezed,
He looks so old and tattered,
That he always gets teased.

His fur is all matted,
And he's falling apart,
But Teddy will always,
Be close to my heart.

Lori Guido

University High School -- Newark

An Ode To My Teddy Bear

My Teddy isn't furry or cuddley and white
And I don't sleep with Teddy beside me each night.
His ears are very big and he's missing one round eye.
He's not very social because his appearance makes him shy
His neck is busted open and broken is every limb
But that just goes to prove the love I have for him.
The other toys sit on the shelf because of me they are not a part
But Teddy lives an endless life deep inside my heart.
He's a constant company every place I go.
He's always a friend, never a foe.
He never argues with me or puts up a fight.
He always yields to my decisions because I'm always right.
He has been with me for years and he's still here today.
Which just goes to prove Teddy is here to stay.
He's understanding, thoughtful, cheerful and sincere.
He never makes you hurt inside or even shed a tear.
And to my loving Teddy no bear can compare
No matter where you search land, sea or air.
My Teddy can't climb mountains or swim across the sea
But when I really need him, he's always there for me.
I may not often show the love for Teddy I keep
But rest assured Teddy my feelings for you run deep.

Althea Grant

An Old Friend of Mine

At the age of three;
I had a stuffed Koala bear, who slept with me
Whenever I had a nightmare he was always right there
To me it just showed how much he could care
We dreamed someday of traveling the world;
He was my personal security guard and I was his favorite
little girl
By the way, his name was Shamir;
We were a real couple, wherever he was
I was always near.
Now that I am older I regret that I lost him
It was a greater loss than losing a billion dollar gem,
But I will always have my memories of him!

Vanessa R. DeBerry

Eighth Grade

Warren School -- Newark

Teddy Teddy Bear

Teddy Teddy Bear
Why do you have tears?
I just can't bear
To see my Teddy Bear
feel so uncared for.
Come over here!
I'm going to show you
how much I do care,
for my Teddy Bear.

Let me tell you something
Don't think you're nothing
Because when I 'm in need
you're always there for me.
And when I feel like I'm
noone,
You make me feel like someone.

So Teddy Teddy Bear
Never drop tears alone
Let's drop them together
So we can share...
my tender Teddy Bear.

Oneida Vargas

Millburn Junior High School-- Millburn

If it weren't for Theodore Roosevelt,
Your name could've been Ricky or Vincent van Pelt,
But your name is Teddy and you're my main bear,
And often it seems you're the only one to care.

Your warm-hearted face and innocent eyes,
Can change even the grayest of skies,
You sit on my dresser and grin down at me,
Often creating a room full of glee.

You're the kind of friend who's never down,
And it seems that you're always clownin' around,
I realize you're stuffed, but I think it's with love,
We belong together like a hand in a glove.

Tina Rosenblum

The Jackie Lakes Award
An avid follower of the arts. Chosen for
its creativity.

The Case of the Missing Bear

I was sitting in a chair
Drinking a coke
Then a dame came in with a note
It said "Private Lace
Please take this case."
My bear is missing.
I don't know what to do.
Sooner or later his mate will be too.
It was 8:00 o'clock
It was getting late.
I went to the park.
To investigate.
It was 9:00 o'clock
Still investigating
I found the bear.
He was hibernating

Kevin Woodson
Central Elementary School
Orange.

The 1985 Sister Filomena Poetry Award

Presented to the student of Special Education
with the best poem. Given in the name of Sister Filomena,
Principal of Saint Patrick's, Newark in recognition of her
outstanding work with and concern for Special Education
children.

Smokey the Bear

Who is Smokey the Bear?
The famous fire fighter of all.
Be careful with your campfires
Are his words throughout the year,
For forests are a special place
Where we can share nature's open space.
So listen to Smokey,
To be quite sure
That all the animals will be secure.

Arron Martin
Saint Patrick's School
Newark

The 1985 FEELINGS AWARD

This award is presented to the student whose poem The Education Center of Turtle Back Zoo feels has the most "feelings" towards animals. It is given in memory of our beloved Siberian Tiger who was named FEELINGS. She taught us all about having "feelings" for endangered species and all animals.

Grizzly

A grizzly bear stands tall
in its majesty
It growls, not to hurt
but to scare away
He hunts down his prey;
quietly and carefully
It protects its young to its
last breath
He is gentle, yet ferocious
when aggravated
A grizzly bear stands tall
in its majesty

Mtu Pugh
University High School
ABC Program
Newark

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